

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 679

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor Bailey Little upon the occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor a remarkable professional who has rendered valuable service to the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, one of the Volunteer State's largest and most successful enterprises in terms of agriculture, commerce, tourism, and equine sports; and

WHEREAS, known far and wide as The World's Greatest Horse Show, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration is the premier event for the Tennessee Walking Horse; spanning eleven days and nights prior to Labor Day and encompassing exciting competition, the Celebration annually awards more than \$650,000 in prize money and crowns the breed's World Grand Champion and some twenty World Champions; and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2008, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration (TWHNC) will be inducting a select group of worthy individuals into the TWHNC Hall of Fame during a gala evening at Calsonic Arena on the Celebration Grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the TWHNC Hall of Fame ceremony is held biennially to specially honor and recognize those sterling professionals who, "have made significant and outstanding contributions to the Walking Horse industry and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration" during, "fifteen or more years involvement with the breed"; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary 2008 class of TWHNC Hall of Fame inductees most appropriately includes Bailey Little, for his many years of unswerving commitment to serving the best interests of the Tennessee Walking Horse and of TWHNC; and

WHEREAS, joining TWHNC in 1975, Mr. Little is its longest-serving current member. In his thirty-two years of service, he has served on the Board of Directors for sixteen years and as

Chairman for two of those years, overseeing the development and implementation of the SHOW Campaign; and

WHEREAS, Bailey Little has also been an advocate of the Tennessee Walking Horse in his role as a member of the Show Horse Support Fund Board of Directors; he has constantly worked for the protection of the breed; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Tennessee Tech University, Mr. Little enjoyed a successful business career before he retired from Union Planters Bank in 2003, as the bank's Senior Vice President; and

WHEREAS, an integral part of his community, Bailey Little has further contributed his time and numerous talents as the Treasurer of the Bedford County Railroad Authority and as a member of the Industrial Development Board of the City of Shelbyville. He has also been a member of the Shelbyville Lions Club for forty-seven years and rendered sterling service as its President from 1968 to 1969; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little is an active and devout member of First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville, devoting himself to his roles as Deacon, Elder, and Trustee of the Congregation throughout his forty-seven years of attendance at the church; and

WHEREAS, Bailey Little is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of forty-eight years, Trena Wilhite Little, and his two daughters, his two sons-in-law, and his four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, by means of his induction into the TWHNC Hall of Fame, Bailey Little has earned the ultimate accolade given by the Walking Horse industry, and we should pay homage to his life of purpose, commitment, and accomplishment on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby acknowledge and applaud Bailey Little, a loyal member of TWHNC and stalwart supporter of the Tennessee Walking Horse, on the occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame and commend him for his sterling service to the Walking Horse industry and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.